Ice Jam Loosens Up, Fragments Travel Downstream

Large sheets and chunks of ice that created rapid rises on the Grand River this morning are on the move. Ice began building on the North Park Street Bridge (north of downtown Grand Rapids), causing rapid and frequent fluctuations around Comstock Park. River levels went from 11.7 feet at around 7:40 a.m., to 12.5 feet around 9:30 a.m. The peak level was recorded at 12.8 feet around 11:22 a.m. River levels at Comstock Park fluctuated between 12. 4 feet and 12.8 feet through the event. Finally, ice began to break around noon, the same time in which observations showed a steep drop. Comstock Park fell to 12.1 feet at 12:30 p.m. and eventually fell to 11.65 feet by 2:00 p.m.

Relief was real for residents along the river, as ice passed under the Ann Street Bridge with no notable issues. At around 1:00 p.m. ice made it all the way down to the Grand Valley State University area and continues to flow downstream. At this point, observations are showing decent flow and less in the way of ice upstream. However, conditions are still being monitored, due to ice that exists on rivers in Ionia County, east of M-66.

Downstream locations such as Eastmanville and Robinson Township will be locations to monitor, as the ice progresses down the Grand River. Below are some graphs and photos showing the progress of the ice jam.



<u>Pictures from North Park Street Bridge</u>

Courtesy of Bruce Ling









<u>Pictures near the Fulton Street Bridge</u>

Courtesy of GVSU Cam

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